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REMARKS

In the Office Action the Examiner noted that claims 1-9, 11-14, 16, 18-20, and 22-28 are pending in the application, and the Examiner rejected all claims. The Examiner's rejections are traversed below, and reconsideration of all rejected claims is respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

In item 2 on page 2 of the Office Action the Examiner advised the Applicants that should claims 1, 5, 9, 16, and 18-20 be found allowable, claims 26-28 will be objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.75 as being substantial duplicates thereof.

The Applicants respectfully submit that more information is needed from the Examiner in order to adequately respond to the statement regarding 37 C.F.R. §1.75. Claims 26-28 are independent claims which recite inventive aspects of the present invention, and do not appear to be duplicates, substantial or otherwise, of any of the other independent claims. Further, the Examiner has identified 7 independent claims (1, 5, 9, 16, and 18-20) and stated that 3 independent claims (26-28) are a "substantial duplicate thereof." No further information is provided as to which of the first recited 7 independent claims the three objected to claims allegedly duplicate. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully request further information regarding which claims are allegedly duplicated, and further request the withdrawal of the Examiner's objections to claims 26-28.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC §103

In items 4-16 on pages 3-17 of the Office Action the Examiner rejected claims 1-9, 11-14, 16, 18-20, and 22-28 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,428,417, issued to Lichtenstein (hereinafter referred to as "Lichtenstein"), in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,492,977, issued to Marshall (hereinafter referred to as "Marshall"). The Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejections of these claims.

Claim 1 of the present application recites an information processing system in which "a second mode is settable to provide a second function of displaying the predetermined shape marker indicative of the detection of the touch in the touch position if the touch operation is detected on said operation screen unit, without executing the first function corresponding to the touch operation including the touch position." The Applicants respectfully submit that neither Lichtenstein nor Marshall, alone or in combination, discloses or suggests at least these features

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of claim 1.

The disclosure of Lichtenstein is directed to an overlay projection apparatus that apparently provides a lecturer with the capability of projecting controlled graphic overlay images including multiple pointing icons, highlighting overstrikes, and alphanumeric labels. The display-type touch panel apparently provides the lecturer with visible selective control of various highlighting graphics including spatial positing, orientation, positional freeze, deletion, editing, brightness adjustment, and projected color selection. See Lichtenstein, column 2, lines 46-60.

The disclosure of Marshall is directed to a keyboard including a base, a plurality of keys, and a grid surrounding some of the keys, which can be projected onto a screen, in which some of the keys control the functions of others. According to Marshall, a KeyGuide fits around some of the keys on the keyboard to allow a representation of the keyboard and keyguide to appear on a screen. There is apparently a plurality of key types in groups wherein each group has a specific function or operation. Among the keys are PageSelect keys, which can operate on the other key groups changing the operation of the other keys.

KeyPage keys are also included within the groups of keys. According to Marshall, KeyPage keys can be used in place of a mouse, either by using an available KeyPage or by selecting a mouse substitute KeyPage Set from an Option key or KeyPage key option. Using the KeyPage Set, each KeyPage allows the cursor or mouse pointer to be controlled in a different way. One KeyPage can be utilized to divide a screen into a number of boxes defined as the same as the number of rows and columns on the keyboard's main KeyPage keys, then a key on the KeyPage moves the pointer to the relative box on the screen. The range then reduces in size to cover the smallest of the previous boxes; at each press, the available area reduces until the box covers the smallest moves available. See Marshall, column 3, lines 15-23.

Therefore, neither Lichtenstein nor Marshall discloses or suggests "displaying the predetermined shape marker indicative of the detection of the touch." In Marshall, each KeyPage simply allows the cursor or mouse pointer to be controlled. In contrast to the present invention, a KeyPage is not settable to display a "marker indicative of the detection of the touch." In fact, in Marshall, there is no such marker, as the KeyPage simply controls movement of the cursor.

Therefore, the Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 5, 9, 16, 18-20, and 26-28 (independent claims 5, 9, 16, 18-20, and 26-28 recite language similar to that of independent claim 1) are patentable over the references. As dependent claims 2-4, 6-8, 11-14, and 22-25 depend from respective independent claims, the dependent claims are patentable

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over the references for at least the reasons presented for the independent claims.

Summary

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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